GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:395
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Joint Ventures of NPCIL
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Ranjan (Pappu Yadav) Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government proposes to enable the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) to form joint ventures with Indian Railways for setting up of Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) in the country;

(b)if so, the details thereof including the number of NPPs proposed to be set up under the said joint ventures and the reasons therefor along with the equity contribution from the said PSUs;

(c)whether the Government proposes to invite established private entities to form joint ventures with NPCIL and if so, the details thereof including the proposals received by the Government from the said entities;

(d)whether the existing joint ventures with NALCO, Indian Oil and NTPC are operational and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e)whether the partners in the aforementioned joint ventures are equally liable for settlements and claims arising under the liability mandate and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b)The Government has already enabled Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) to form Joint Ventures with other Public Sector Enterprises by amending the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act 1962. So far, only exploratory discussions have been held between NPCIL and Indian Railways for forming a Joint Venture for setting up nuclear power projects in the country.

(c)No, Sir.

(d)The existing Joint Ventures with National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) could not take up projects earlier on account of the provisions of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962. The amendment brought in by the Government in this Act has enabled the Joint Ventures to take up projects in future. The projects will be considered, subject to agreement between the JV partners and approval by the Government.

(e)As per the Section 4(1) of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act, 2010 the Operator of the nuclear installation shall be liable for nuclear damage caused by nuclear incident. Thus, in the event of a nuclear incident, the Joint Venture Company, as operator of the nuclear installation, would be liable for nuclear damage, caused by a nuclear incident.
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